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STATE OF DELAWARE  
**DEPARTMENT OF STATE**

DIVISION OF PROFESSIONAL REGULATION

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<b>PUBLIC MEETING MINUTES:</b>	<b>Board of Speech Pathology, Audiology and Hearing Aid Dispensers (Committee Meeting)</b>
<b>MEETING DATE AND TIME:</b>	<b>Tuesday, January 15, 2013 at 9:30 a.m.</b>
<b>PLACE:</b>	861 Silver Lake Boulevard, Dover, Delaware <b>Conference Room B</b> second floor of the Cannon Building
<b>MINUTES APPROVED</b>	02/19/2013

**MEMBERS PRESENT**

Lisa Marencin, Professional Member  
Roberta Burtch, Professional Member  
Tonya Coats, Professional Member  
Valerie Cloutier, Public Member  
Meredith Sullivan, Professional Member

**DIVISION STAFF**

Eileen Kelly, Deputy Attorney General  
Jessica Williams, Administrative Specialist II

**ALSO PRESENT**

Nina Straitman, A.I. DuPont Hospital  
Wendy Strauss, GACEC  
Linda Vallino, A.I. DuPont Hospital  
Christine Virion, DSHA

**CALL TO ORDER**

Ms. Marencin called the meeting to order at 9:39 a.m.

**NEW BUSINESS**

**Discussion Regarding the Proposed Draft of Statute & Regulations Regarding the Use of SLPAs**

Ms. Cloutier stated that during the November 20, 2012 Board meeting the public voiced their concerns regarding the educational requirements and supervision ratio.

Ms. Kelly advised the Board that the directive from the Joint Sunset Committee was to discuss the viability of creating SLPA's. At this juncture, the Committee needs to determine if it is a viable enterprise or not.

The Committee discussed the viability of proceeding with the proposal.

Ms. Cloutier proposed that the Committee review the proposal and compare them to DHSA's proposals.

Ms. Marencin advised the Committee that there are no universities within the state that have a communication studies major. Ms. Coats stated that there are programs that opened years ago, and are now closed due to the lack of interest in the profession. She also stated that there are several articles questioning how long the need for SLPA's will last. The University of Delaware has a cognitive science degree with a concentration in speech language pathology. Members of the Committee believe that it would be best to require a minimum of a bachelor's degree to become an SLPA.

The Committee was advised by the public, that the University of Delaware is currently working on developing a master's and bachelor's program for speech language pathology or communication studies. The proposal is currently being reviewed by the faculty senate. The Committee discussed the proposed degree programs at length with the public.

Ms. Cloutier made a motion, seconded by Ms. Burtch, to attempt to revise the proposed regulations again, creating tighter requirements and use DHSA's recommendations. Motion unanimously carried.

The Committee discussed the educational requirements and required clinical experience that would be included in the proposal. They began revising the proposal using DSHA's recommendations.

The Committee observed a brief recess from 11:54 a.m. until 12:12 p.m.

The Committee continued to revise the proposal and will continue to make revisions during their February 19, 2013 meeting.

#### **Other Business before the Committee (for discussion only)**

There was no other business before the Committee.

#### **Public Comment**

There was no public comment.

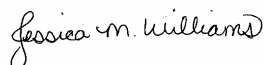
#### **Next Scheduled Meeting**

The Committee will meet on February 19, 2013 at 9:30 a.m. in Conference Room B of the Cannon Building.

#### **Adjournment**

Ms. Marencin made a motion, seconded by Ms. Coats, to adjourn. Motion unanimously carried. There being no further business before the Committee, the meeting adjourned at 12:57 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Jessica Williams  
Administrative Specialist II

